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Vol. 20, No. 5 October 14, 1997

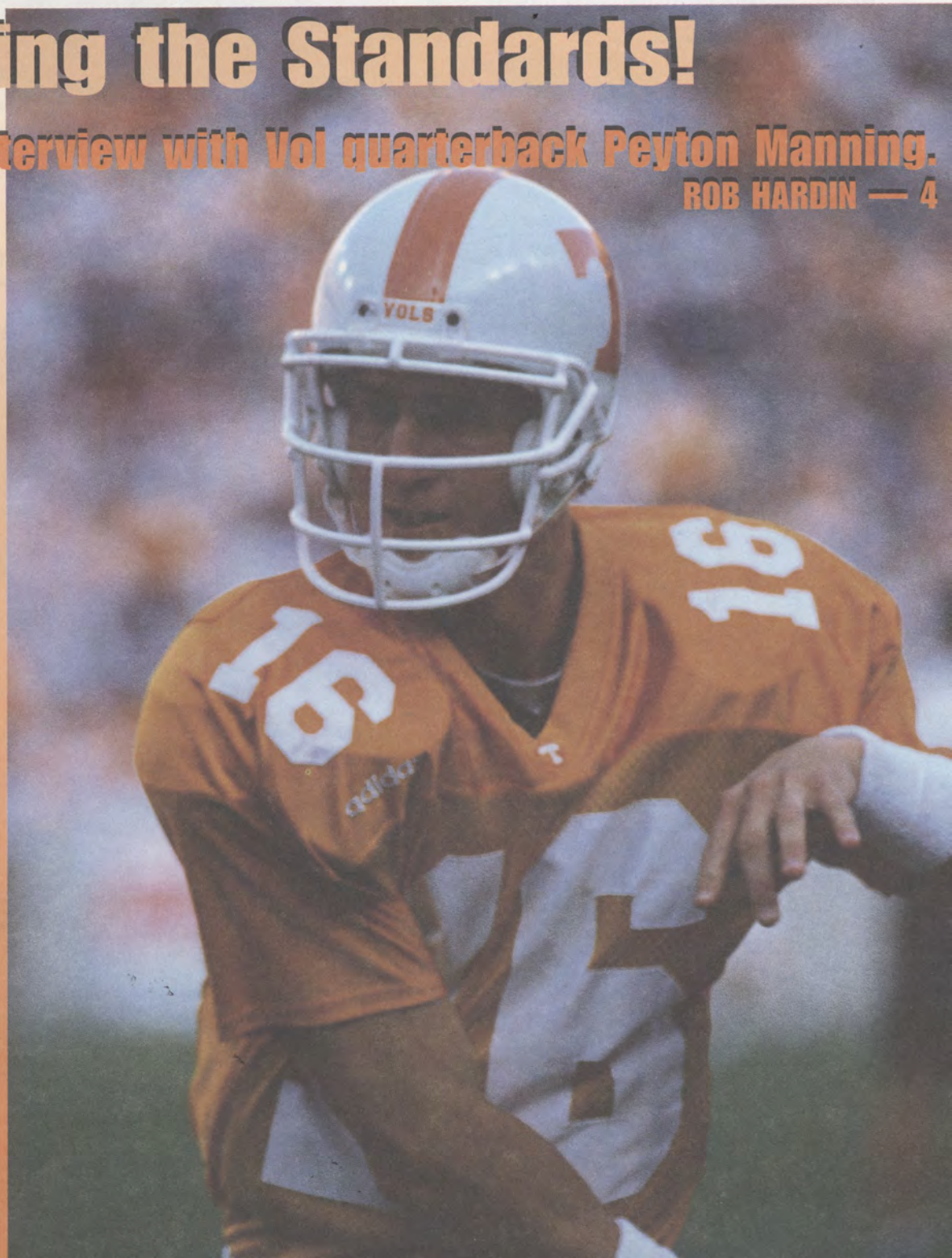
Volunteers Magazine

NEWS FROM THE TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS

Exceeding the Standards!

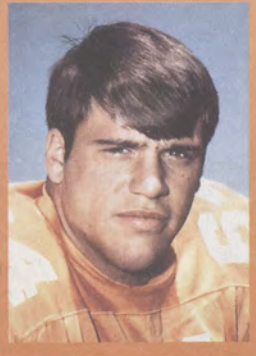
An interview with Vol quarterback Peyton Manning.

ROB HARDIN — 4



INSIDE:

6 Tennessee led from the start to defeat Georgia 38-13
VOLUNTEERS MAGAZINE STAFF



15 THE LAST WORD
A LOOK BACK AT JACK REYNOLDS
TOM MATTINGLY

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From the Editor

In the musty East Stadium dormitory where Tennessee football players slept and studied in 1956, John Gordy paid Bowden Wyatt one of the two finest compliments I have ever heard about any man. (For the other supreme accolade, see below.)

As a sports writer for The Knoxville Journal, I was interviewing team captain Gordy about Wyatt's ability to lead. It was mid-season, and the Vols were unbeaten, enjoying a pristine status they would maintain until Baylor upset them in the Sugar Bowl.

"If Coach Wyatt asked us to ram our heads against these dormitory walls, we'd do it without even wondering why," Gordy said about the coaching legend whose memory will be honored at Neyland Stadium this afternoon.

His brains are still relatively intact, at least for an old NFL lineman (Detroit Lions), so Gordy must never have received the order from Wyatt he would have unflinchingly obeyed.

In that interview 41 years ago, Gordy revealed the depth of devotion the Vols of 1956 felt toward their coach, who soon will become only the third man ever inducted a second time into the National Football Foundation Hall of Fame.

Keep in mind that Gordy wasn't some easily impressed country boy fresh off the family farm. Son of a famous Dixieland musician from Nashville named Papa John Gordy, young John had been around the block. But he had never seen anybody with the magnetic qualities Wyatt possessed.

Both Hall of Fame enshrinements came posthumously for Wyatt, who died in 1969, six years after closing out a coaching career that was distinguished by capturing championships in three different conferences. Bowden went into the hall as a player in 1972 and will be inducted next December as a coach in ceremonies at New York's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

But back to Gordy, who as captain of the 1956 Vols knew better than anybody else the characteristics that set Wyatt apart as a leader. In the most effusive praise you can imagine, he matched Bowden with the traits that caused people to rally around him.

"He was somebody you trusted, a person with great courage who made you want to do whatever it took to please him," Gordy said. "You were determined to go all out for him."

Reminded of the three elements of leadership — integrity, compassion for those under his command and acceptance of responsibility — Gordy said Wyatt was tops in all categories.

In addition, as sports historian Ben Byrd has brought to our attention, Wyatt had the presence, the persona and the intangibles to go with his undeniable leadership qualities.

Summing it up, Byrd called Wyatt "the greatest natural leader" he ever knew, and pointed out Bowden even looked the part. "Hollywood handsome" is the way somebody described him. His were the rugged good looks of a Clark Gable or John Wayne, not the pretty face of a Tyrone Power. The movies would have cast him as a cavalry officer taking his troops into battle, not as a leading man pitching woo to Linda Darnell.

Gordy, who lives in Huntington Beach, Calif., is now an executive with a health care corporation. After Wyatt took over a downtrodden Tennessee program in 1955, he convinced the players they could win by being better conditioned than their opponents.

"A turning point for the Wyatt era came in the Auburn game opening the 1956 season," Gordy declared. "Coach Wyatt took us to Birmingham, outweighed man-for-man by about 30 pounds. But he told us we were in better shape than Auburn was. It's hard to believe now, but coach had us running wind sprints before the game began. The Auburn people thought we were crazy, but we went on to a 35-7 victory that gave us the impetus for a great season."

As for that previously mentioned best compliment ever, consider this one about our own Gen. Bob Neyland. When asked for an assessment of arch-rival Neyland, the Alabama and Duke coaching great Wallace Wade told a writer: "He can take his and beat yours, or he can take yours and beat his."

And that's about as good as it gets.

— Haywood Harris

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A Look At The Vols...

EXCEEDING THE STANDARDS!

It all started on March 5 when Peyton Manning uttered these words to hundreds of members of the media and hundreds more fans and teammates.

"Somebody asked me this morning what was the one thing that helped sway my opinion and helped me decide," Manning said to the assembled multitudes at Thompson-Boling Arena. "There wasn't one thing. Just like when I signed here, it was just `sort of a feeling. I've made up my mind and don't ever expect to look back. I am going to stay at the University of Tennessee."

With those words, Manning became just as much a part of Tennessee lore as Davy Crockett, Andrew Jackson and Gen. Robert Neyland. He endeared himself to the fans of Tennessee football and for proponents of making education a priority.

So what else can be written or said about the New Orleans native who passed on millions just to wear the Orange and White No. 16 jersey one more season?

"Peyton staying shows just the type of guy he is," junior placekicker Jeff Hall said. "I think it is incredible that he is here for his senior year. I even look up to Peyton, because I struggle in school sometimes. For him to come in, graduate, be a captain, and be a pre-season All-America is college football at its best. You can't get any better than that."

Manning's accomplishments both on and off the field speak for themselves.

Peyton Manning tied a school record with five TD passes against Texas Tech.

Take a look at his academic accomplishments.

He graduated cum laude in May after only three years at the university with a bachelor's degree in speech communication with a grade point average of 3.60, the highest among speech communications graduates. He was selected Phi Beta Kappa. He was named the quarterback on the CFA Scholar-Athlete team and was second team on the GTE Academic All-America team. He also earned the HONDA Scholar Athlete Award and was Academic All-SEC. Those things are only what he did last season, and he is now pursuing a master's degree in sport management.

"Peyton staying in school tells the freshmen that school is important," former teammate Brad Lampley said. "You take a guy like him who is going to make more money that most people will every see, and yet he comes in here and graduates in three years. That speaks volumes about how you have to be a well-rounded person. I think the university is excited because a lot of the best athletes are putting the student in the student-athlete."

Manning knows what takes top priority.

"Football is extremely important, but you have to get your education first," Manning said. "It is important to start off on the right foot. That is what enabled me to graduate in three years. You have to keep your priorities in order, and it all starts with education."

Offensive coordinator and quarterback coach David Cutcliffe also knows Manning has his priorities in order.

"He is an all-around person,"

Cutcliffe said. "Peyton is able to take care of business. He manages his priorities. When it's school, it's school. When it's social, it's social. I admire him very much as any person I've ever met. I truly admire him."

Next look at his leadership attributes.

He was elected co-captain of the 1997 Vol squad along with senior linebacker Leonard Little. Little is also a graduate student, graduating this August with a bachelor's degree in psychology.

Manning also received the "The Chancellor's Citation for Extraordinary Campus Leadership and Service" from UT Chancellor William T. Snyder.

"Ever since he started his freshman year, he's tried to exemplify leadership," wide receiver Marcus Nash said. "You can tell by the way he gets together in the huddle and says 'Come on guys. Let's get the tempo together.' Every year he has taken good care of the huddle. Peyton is the kind of person who wants to be the absolute best he can be."

Manning spends hours readying himself for Saturday's games. He watches endless rolls of film, has daily practices, and works on his strength and conditioning, but he still finds time to be involved in the community.

He has hours of community service to his credit and sets an example for everyone to follow. His community service activities have included being chairman of the Multiple Sclerosis Readathon, serving as Grand Marshall of the 1997 Dogwood Arts Festival Parade, and participating in National Children's Book Week by reading to fourth graders.

Those are just some of the official activities he has undertaken. The list of hospital visits, school visits and autograph signings are endless. Manning certainly has made an impact on the Knoxville community.

"I want students to understand that football is only a fraction of my life," Manning said. "I've preached on the importance of faith, family and education. If I can help change even one student's view of drugs, violence or other problems, then I consider what I have done a success."

Finally, his athletic achievements have been unprecedented at Tennessee.

Manning holds every school passing record, including career yards (8356), career attempts (1042), career completions (659) and touchdowns (63). (That is where he stood before last Saturday's game with Mississippi.) He also holds the season records for yards (3287), attempts (380) and completions (244).

His status in the SEC has also been established as he stands in the top ten in career completion percentage, lowest interception percentage, career passing yards, career touchdown passes, career completions and several other categories.

He has finished in the top ten in the Heisman Trophy balloting the last two years and was named to several preseason All-America teams prior to this season.

"Peyton is the most complete quarterback I've been around," Tennessee head coach Phillip Fulmer said. "He has great work ethic, character and leadership ability. He has outstanding physical ability. You combine those things together and you've got a great one. Manning has a quick release, understands the game and studies the game."

With academics, football and community service taking most of Manning's time, his schedule stays quite busy. But that is fine with him, he relishes practically every minute of it.

"I just enjoy the entire college experience," he said. "I enjoy football. I enjoy school. I have a lot of good friends here. I like being around the coaches, seeing my parents after every game on Saturday - a lot of the little things like that.

"Somebody asked me once what is the one thing college football brings to mind. The first thing I thought was 'Happiness.' I really enjoy what I am doing. I hope the answer is the same for pro football down the road, too."

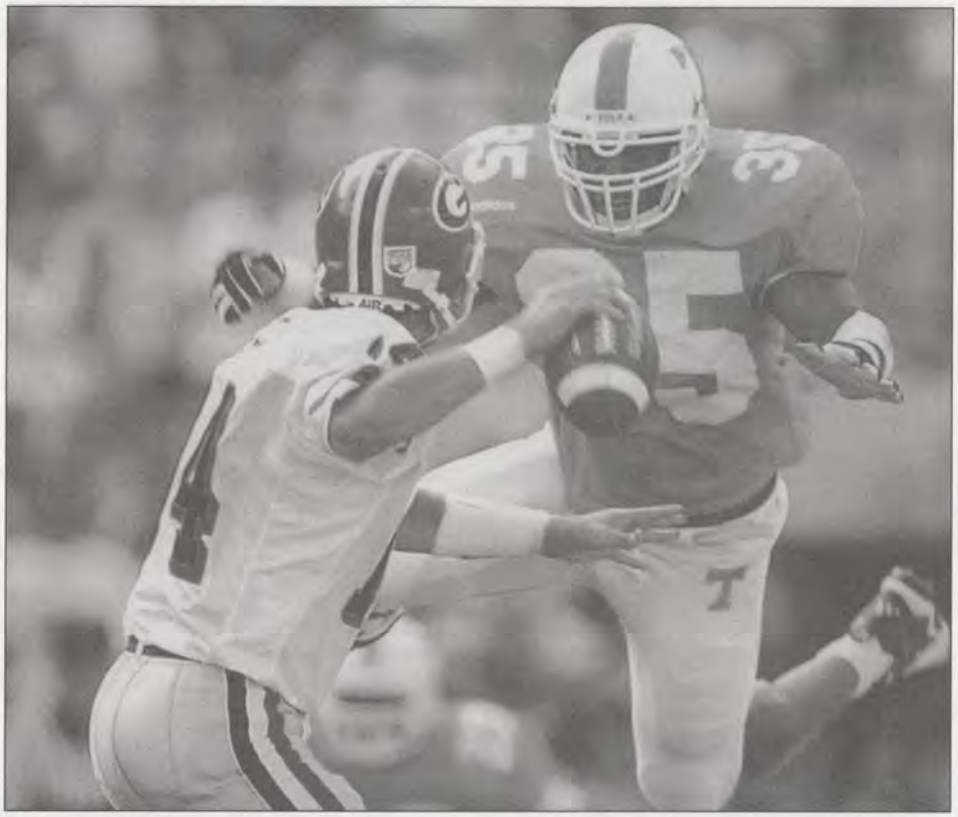
Peyton continues to make Vol fans happy each time he steps on the field. Vol fans are hoping for more of the same down the stretch run of the 1997 season.

— Rob Hardin

"FOOTBALL IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, BUT YOU HAVE TO GET YOUR EDUCATION FIRST. IT IS IMPORTANT TO START OFF ON THE RIGHT FOOT. THAT IS WHAT ENABLED ME TO GRADUATE IN THREE YEARS. YOU HAVE TO KEEP YOUR PRIORITIES IN ORDER, AND IT ALL STARTS WITH EDUCATION."

— PEYTON MANNING

VOLS DOG GEORGIA, 38-13



Shawn Johnson gets after Georgia quarterback Mike Bobo. Game photos courtesy Joe Howell Knoxville News-Sentinel.

(See Fulmer File, p. 8)

SHIELDS-WATKINS FIELD, Knoxville, Tenn., Oct. 11, 1997 - It was a case of "something old and something new" when Tennessee and Georgia squared off today before 106,656 at Neyland Stadium. The "something new" was freshman tailback Jamal Lewis, the Atlanta native who broke every dish in the house against Ole Miss a week ago and added to his growing reputation with 22 carries for 232 yards against his homestate Bulldogs. The "something old" was Peyton Manning, the cunning Vol quarterback who completed 31 of 40 passes for 343 yards and four scores, hitting 11 different receivers along the way and sending Lewis behind a beautifully-blocking line for big gain after big gain. We won't worry about "something borrowed" and "something blue." (The win took on new meaning when LSU took Florida tonight at Baton Rouge 28-21.)

"I wanted to do better this week so I worked hard in practice to get better," Lewis said. "The line worked hard this week as well, and it showed during the game. I am a little surprised at my success, but the line has been opening up the holes for me."

The Vols went the long way for their scores, going 79 yards in 12 plays in 4:55 off the opening kickoff, 80 yards in nine plays in 3:45 for their second touchdown, 99 yards in 10 plays in 2:49 possession, 80 yards in 11 plays in 3:57 and 75 yards in eight plays in 3:22.

"You have to give their offense credit," Georgia coach Jim Donnan said. "Tennessee manhandled us up front and controlled the game. They're a very talented team and Peyton Manning did a great job directing them."

Manning's four TD passes went to Marcus Nash for 13 yards, rookie Cedrick Wilson and Peerless Price for eight each, and Derrick Edmonds from 15 yards out. Nash had six catches for 59 yards, and Price and Jeremaine Copeland each caught five for 57 yards.

The Vols came out meaning business off the opening kickoff, moving to a score after starting at their 21. Lewis ran for six and caught a pass for six more, good enough to move the chains on third-and-four from the UT 27. A play later, Manning hit Nash for four and found Mark Levine deep down the right side for 23 yards. Lewis ran for five more, followed by an 11-yard scamper by Manning to the Georgia 24. Manning then hit Copeland for 10 and followed that up with the payoff to Nash from 13 yards out as Marcus made sure to get both feet down in the southwest corner. It was 7-0 and Neyland Stadium was jumping.

Georgia had a couple of opportunities, but misfired on a field goal and saw another stopped for a fielder that made the tally 7-3 after one period.

The Vols put 17 points on the board in the second quarter as Manning led the Vols northward, responding to a quickie Georgia drive (80 yards in two plays in 44 seconds). When Peyton and his buddies got the spheroid back, the response was not immediate but was

> ***"THIS WAS TRULY THE TENNESSEE OFFENSE. WE RAN THE BALL AND PASSED THE BALL WELL. THE DEFENSE PICKED IT UP FOR US IN THE SECOND HALF, AND IT WAS A TOTAL TEAM EFFORT. THIS IS A GREAT WIN, AND THE LOCKER ROOM WAS THE WAY IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE AFTER A TENNESSEE WIN."***
>
> ***— VOL QUARTERBACK PEYTON MANNING***

just as effective. Lewis had an electrifying 31-yard run right up the middle and followed that up with a 17-yarder, getting the ball to the UGA 27. Levine caught a pass for six yards and carried twice to get it to the eight and Manning found Memphis rookie C. Wilson for the score. It was a dazzling catch by Cedrick who reached behind himself to make the scoring grab.

Things looked bleak when the Vols got the ball at the one, 99 yards away from the Orange and White checkerboards at the North end, but never fear. On third-and-eight, Lewis roared up the gut for 38 yards to give the good guys much-needed breathing room. Four plays later, Manning found Copeland for 14 yards and Price for nine more. Lewis hit the middle again for 13 to the Bulldog eight. Manning then found Price who made a nifty move to cash in the eight-yarder for a score. It was 24-10 at the half.

A scoreless third quarter ensued, even though Georgia controlled the ball for the first 8:12, but came up short when a fake field goal pass netted 21 when the Dogs needed 27.

The Vols scored on both full possessions of the fourth quarter at the South end as Lewis continued to run effectively and Manning played pitch-and-catch with Shawn Bryson (12 yards), Andy McCullough (15) and Nash (11). From the Georgia 12, Lewis nearly scored as he got the ball down the one, and Manning rode in behind Trey Teague and friends in for the score.

A series later, Lewis ran for 11 and departed Shields-Watkins Field to the plaudits of the Vol faithful and a true freshman rushing record, eclipsing the mark of 215 held by James Stewart way back in 1991. The Vols suffered no loss of efficiency as Levine ran for 14 and Neil Johnson caught his first pass as a Vol for 11 and Price caught one for 12. Rookie wideout David Martin caught his first pass as a Vol for 12 before Manning found Edmonds for the final score from 15 yards out.

Vol defenders fought the good fight, led by the inspirational Al Wilson, who was in on 10 tackles, broke up a pass, had a sack and was a general pain in the posterior for the Bulldogs all day. The Bulldogs only had 22 yards rushing in the second half, as Robert Edwards had 113 yards at the half, and finished with 131.

"We came out in the second half and played Tennessee football," Wilson said. "We were ready to play and wrapped up and tackled better. We wanted to shut Edwards down in the second half. We decided to play football and do what we know we can do. We worked hard in practice and were determined to show the nation we are for real. We played a good game."

Jonathan Brown had eight hits, a tackle for loss and two sacks, roaring in from the outside to continually disrupt the Bulldog offense. Raynoch Thompson had seven hits and a tackle for loss. Cory Gaines added seven hits and Leonard Little five. Overall, the Vols took away 17 yards and stole 24 more on sacks.

"We started out flat, but we started feeding off of the offense," Brown said. "We made some adjustments at halftime and buckled down in the second half."

Al Wilson (left) had 10 tackles, including a tackle for loss, a pass broken up and a sack, while Peerless Price (right) was his old self, catching fives passes for 57 yards and a TD.

GAME NOTES: Tennessee's 35 first downs broke the school record of 33 set in 1994 against Vanderbilt... Lewis' 221 yards is the seventh best in school history... Manning is tied for third in the SEC with LSU's Tommy Hodson in career touchdown passes with 69... Manning's 31 completions move him to fourth all-time in the SEC with 715... Hall's eight points give him 206 for his career, which is sixth best all-time at Tennessee... The crowd of 106,656 was the largest of the season and third largest crowd in Neyland Stadium history... Former Vol head coach Bowden Wyatt (1955-62), who will be inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame as a coach this December, was honored before the game. Representing the late Vol coach were his grandson Floyd Goodson of Atlanta and wife Amy, sister Peggy Bowen and sister-in-law Martha Wyatt, both of whom live in Kingston. Coach Wyatt, who died in 1969, was also inducted for his career as a Vol player (1936-38) in 1972. As a coach, he won conference championships at Wyoming, Arkansas and Tennessee.

Tennessee Statistics vs. Georgia

Team Statistics	UT	UGA
First Downs	35	21
Rushing	13	9
Passing	20	11
Penalty	2	1
Rushing Attempts	36	30
Yards Gained	298	191
Yards Lost	13	38
Net Yards Rushing	285	153
Net Yards Passing	343	288
Passes Attempted	40	34
Passes Completed	31	21
Had Intercepted	1	0
Total Offensive Plays	76	64
Total Net Yards	641	441
Average Gain	8.4	6.87
Fumbles-Lost	0-0	0-0
Penalties No-Yards	7-60	7-57
Punts-Average	1-50.0	4-43.0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	1-12
Kickoff Returns-Yards	1-21	4-73
Int. Returns-Yards	0-0	1-0
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Time of Possession	30:29	29:31
Third Down Conversions	7-9	5-13
Fourth Down Conversions	0-1	0-1
Sacks By-Yards	4-24	1-8

GEORGIA	3	7	0	3 — 13
TENNESSEE	7	17	0	14— 38

1-T: Nash, pass from Manning 13. Hall kick.
Drive: 79 yards, 12 plays, 4:58 possession, 10:02 on clock.
1-G: Hines, FG 29.
Drive: 68 yards, 11 plays, 4:22 possession, 1:34 on clock.
2-T: Hall, FG 42.
Drive: 55 yards, 9 plays, 4:03 possession, 12:31 on clock.
2-G: Edwards, run 49. Hines kick.
Drive: 80 yards, 2 plays, :44 possession, 11:47 on clock.
2-T: C. Wilson, pass from Manning 8. Hall kick.
Drive: 80 yards, 9 plays, 3:45 possession, 8:02 on clock.
2-T: Price, pass from Manning 8. Hall kick.
Drive: 99 yards, 10 plays, 2:49 possession, 1:06 on clock.
4-G: Hines, FG 28.
Drive: 62 yards, 8 plays, 1:56 possession, 11:34 on clock.
4-T: Manning, run 1. Hall kick.
Drive: 80 yards, 11 plays, 3:57 possession, 7:37 on clock.
4:T: Edmonds, pass from Manning 15. Hall kick.
Drive: 75 yards, 8 plays, 3:22 possession, 1:44 on clock.

Rushing	Att.	Gain	Lost	Net	TD	Long
Lewis	22	236	4	232	0	38
Levine	4	27	0	27	0	14
Manning	5	19	8	11	1	11
Stephens	3	12	1	11	0	6
Bryson	2	4	0	4	0	2

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Int.	Yards	TD	Long
Manning	40	31	1	343	4	34

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Long
Nash	6	59	1	13
Copeland	5	57	0	14
Price	5	57	1	15
Bryson	4	21	0	12
Lewis	3	15	0	8
McCullough	2	49	0	34
Levine	2	29	0	23
D. Martin	1	22	0	22
Edmonds	1	15	1	15
N. Johnson	1	11	0	11
C. Wilson	1	8	1	8

Punting	No.	Yards.	Avg.	Long
Hogue	1	50	50.0	50

Field Goals	Att.	Made	Long
Hall	1	1	42

All Returns	Punts No.Yds.LP	Kickoffs No.YdsLP	Int. No.Yds.LP
Goodrich		1 21 21	

Fulmer File...

1997 Georgia Game

For the first time this season, we had a happy dressing room scene based on the total performance as a unit when we gathered after the Georgia game Saturday. We had played like the Vols of old.

We came together like a family - offense, defense, the kicking game - which is the only way it can be done if we are going to have success against Alabama and the other opponents that lie in wait for us the rest of the season.

I couldn't be happier than I was watching our cohesiveness during a 38-13 victory over Georgia. The Bulldogs' offense can be a nightmare.

There were three key factors in our most impressive performance through the midway point of the 1997 season:

1. Our long anticipated running game, featuring Jamal Lewis (but by no means limited to him), grew up in a hurry. What a difference a running game makes.

2. Peyton Manning played like we have come to almost take for granted, a patented Peyton performance if I've ever seen one: four touchdown passes and running for a fifth.

3. The Vols' support from the fans was simply phenomenal, beginning with the walk to the stadium and continuing through the final minutes without a letup.

As I told the media after the game, Robert Edwards of Georgia is a great back, but we've got a pretty good one of our own in Jamal Lewis. I said to Jamal on the sidelines he will be a great back if he keeps his present attitude and if he works and works and works. It's too early to call Jamal great because that's a distinction you earn over a period of years. Certainly he has the ingredients to achieve that status.

In his 232 net-yard showing against the Bulldogs, Lewis made a run that will long be remembered as a highlight of our season and stand out as one of the great plays of the Tennessee-Georgia series. Jamal's run from our three to the 41 not only gave us a first down; it also changed field position. None of us relished the idea of punting to Georgia from deep in our own territory, not when you considered how well Edwards was running the ball at that stage.

Coming into the game, the coaching staff's biggest concern was whether we could stop the combination of Georgia's vaunted ground attack and the passing game posed by the heady senior quarterback, Mike Bobo.

While we didn't breathe easy until the final gun, I was very pleased we held Georgia's running game to 22 second-half yards. It was the nicest gift our defense could give me and the other members of the coaching staff. Had our defense not risen to the occasion, Georgia would have been back in the game in a heartbeat.

Credit for the victory goes not only to the players for their execution, but to the assistant coaches for an outstanding game plan. We had to be balanced, something we've looked for all season, and I think we achieved it against the Bulldogs.

While passing out accolades, I didn't want to overlook the offensive line. These guys were subjected to some strong words the last couple of weeks. Mark Bradley, Rodney Garner and I didn't pull any punches. We expected more from them, and they delivered. They paid the price, but the offensive linemen were boisterous singers in the Tennessee dressing room in our post-game celebration.

— Phillip Fulmer

> ***THERE WERE THREE KEY FACTORS IN OUR MOST IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE THROUGH THE MIDWAY POINT OF THE 1997 SEASON: (1) OUR LONG ANTICIPATED RUNNING GAME, FEATURING JAMAL LEWIS (BUT BY NO MEANS LIMITED TO HIM), GREW UP IN A HURRY. WHAT A DIFFERENCE A RUNNING GAME MAKES. (2) PEYTON MANNING PLAYED LIKE WE HAVE COME TO ALMOST TAKE FOR GRANTED, A PATENTED PEYTON PERFORMANCE IF I'VE EVER SEEN ONE: FOUR TOUCHDOWN PASSES AND RUNNING FOR A FIFTH. (3) THE VOLS' SUPPORT FROM THE FANS WAS SIMPLY PHENOMENAL, BEGINNING WITH THE WALK TO THE STADIUM AND CONTINUING THROUGH THE FINAL MINUTES WITHOUT A LETUP."***
>
> ***— PHILLIP FULMER***

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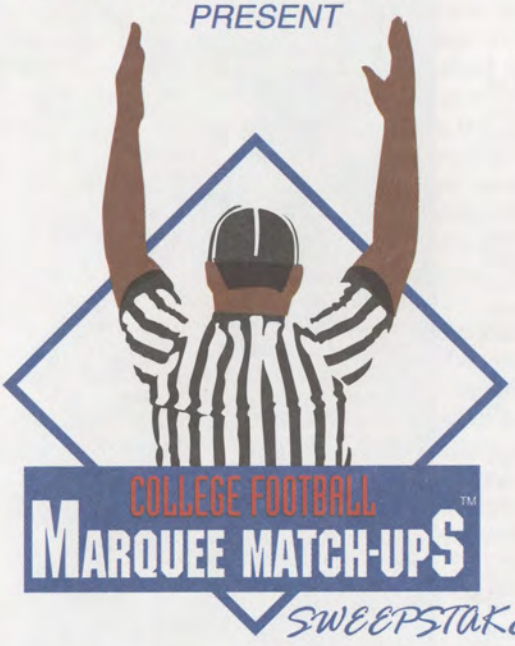

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Tennessee Tradition...

BEN BYRD ON THE VOLS... DUEL IN THE RAIN

It rained and then it rained some more in Birmingham on the day of October 15, 1932, nearly 65 years ago. By early afternoon, Legion Field was all but under water.

The 20,000 spectators who had gathered there were disappointed as well as uncomfortable. They had not only come to see the two unbeaten giants of Southern football wage their annual war; they had also come to see the two greatest running backs in the South, Tennessee's Beattie Feathers and Alabama's John Cain, strut their stuff. Clearly, no one was ever going to run very far in that sea of mud.

In the four short years since Gene McEver's electrifying kickoff return at Tuscaloosa, Tennessee had at least gained parity with Alabama in the quest for Southern supremacy. The Vols had beaten the Tide again in 1929. Alabama had bounced back in '30, the season McEver had sat out with a damaged knee, and UT had come back to win again in '31. Now McEver was gone, and Feathers, a part Cherokee Indian out of Bristol, had succeeded him as wheelhorse of Bob Neyland's single-wing attack.

Neyland now had a different coaching adversary facing him from across the field. The great Wallace Wade had moved on to Duke, and young Frank Thomas was now in his second year at the Tide helm. A former player under Knute Rockne, Thomas had brought the famous Notre Dame box offense along with him. For another 15 years, these two gridiron powers, each with their own distinctive style, were destined to duel it out for regional and national honors on the Third Saturday in October. It was to become a rivalry that enriched the game of college football.

And the game on this rainy day in Birmingham was to add much to the Tennessee-Alabama legend. Those fans who came to see Feathers and Cain run the ball stayed to see them kick it, and, for years afterward, they could boast that they had seen the greatest kicking duel in all of college football as well.

With the field in such terrible condition, it was no surprise that Neyland, the master of conservative strategy, would elect to pin his team's hopes on the kicking game, leaving his opponent to take the risk of fumbling the ball away. But Thomas was not about to fall into that trap. As often as not, depending on the field position at the time, Feathers and Cain would punt on first or second down.

The statistics produced by that game are almost unbelievable when measured against the modern game. Feathers punted 19 times for a 46-yard average, and that included a kick of 18 yards. Cain punted 19 times for a 43-yard average, including one that traveled only 11 yards. And remember, this was with a heavy, water-logged football. They didn't keep bringing in fresh balls as they do in today's game.

For a long time this kick-and-wait strategy worked in favor of Alabama. The Tide managed to nose inside Vol territory deeply enough to kick a field goal in the first quarter, and as the dark afternoon wore on it appeared the three-point lead would hold up. But Neyland, convinced that sooner or later a break would come Tennessee's way, resisted the temptation to gamble. He did not want his team to fall behind by more than one score.

The break came in the fourth quarter. Feathers laid a punt dead on the Alabama one-yard line. Cain then dropped back deep in his end zone on first down to kick the Tide out of danger, but this time he had to reach to handle a bad snap from center and his kick was hurried. He caught only a fraction of the ball, and it fluttered to rest at the 12-yard line.

It was now or never for Tennessee. On third down, Feathers slanted off the strong side tackle and ran over some Tide defenders and past others to score the game's only touchdown. Breezy Wynn added the extra point and the Vols won one for the ages, 7-3.

The game was so magnificently played and orchestrated on both sides that it seems rather rude to second-guess the losing coach after all these years. But I can't help wondering why Alabama did not give Tennessee an intentional safety after Feathers' punt had pinned the Tide back on its one-yard line. That would have made it 3-2, Alabama, and Cain would have gotten a free kick from the 20-yard line. In all liklihood, the Vols would have then had to go some 60 or 70 yards for the winning score. On that field, on that day, the odds would have been very much in Alabama's favor.

Former Vol

Johnnie Jones (1982-84)

Johnnie Jones came to the Vols from Munford, Tenn., and, during his time at Tennessee, wrote his name large on Vol record books.

The former Vol tailback gained 2852 yards on 517 carries during his time as a Vol, a 5.5 yard average and had 19 career touchdowns. He gained 1116 in 1983 and 1290 in 1984, both school records at that time, the latter mark lasting until 1995.

He had 12 100-yard games and three 200-yard games. He had 203 versus Washington State in 1984, 234 versus Rutgers in 1983 and 248 versus Vanderbilt in 1983.

He is best known, perhaps, for a 67-yard run that was the game-winner in the 1983 Alabama game, finding daylight on a pitch left and outlegging everybody to the northeast corner.

He ranks third career-wise in attempts, first in single game attempts (41 against Rutgers in 1983), and second in season net yardage (1290). He was a co-captain of the 1984 team.

Johnnie Jones was a record-setting tailback for the Vols during his early to mid-1980s career.

Men's Cross Country

The men's cross country team ran its first full-squad meet of the year on Saturday, Sept. 27, at the Birmingham Cross Country Classic hosted by Samford University at Spain Park in Birmingham. There, the Vols tallied 139 points to claim third place behind champion Tennessee-Chattanooga (54) and second-place Georgia Tech (108).

The most impressive finish for Tennessee in 1997 marked the first competition of the season for seniors Bob Dickie and Mike Moran and junior Doug Ellington. Dickie led the way for the Vols as he finished in third place with a time of 24:37.70, which tops his career best in an 8k race. His former best was 25:28 at the SEC Championships in 1995. The remaining top five finishers for Tennessee were Ellington in 15th, Moran in 21st, Garrett Lewis in 48th and John Dickson in 55th. The top freshman finisher for the Vols, Chris Hendrix-Buxton, crossed the line in 64th place with a mark of 26:31.60, his career-best finish at UT.

Soccer Drops Tough Decision

Back on the road, Coach Charlie MacCabe's Lady Vol soccer team had a chance to steal victories from two of the SEC's top programs, but came away with heartbreaking losses. UT had a 2-0 lead against Kentucky, but allowed three straight goals, including the final one on a penalty kick with just under three minutes remaining in the contest. At Vanderbilt, the Lady Vols were able to take the Commodores to overtime, but a score 7:12 into the extra period gave Vandy a 2-1 win. The two losses dropped UT to 5-4 overall and 1-3 in the SEC.

Lowery takes Two Titles in Tennis

Senior Erin Lowery claimed both a singles and a doubles title at the Furman Fall Classic in Greenville, S.C. Lowery took the Flight 3 singles crown and teamed up with freshman Vinny Sieverling to take the Flight 3 doubles finals as well. Joining Lowery on the victory stand was the doubles team of sophomore Candy Reid and freshman Megan Russell in the Flight 1 bracket. Junior Emily Woodside, also fared well, advancing to the finals of Flight 1 singles, but fell in straight sets.

Volleyball Begins Streaks

For the first time since 1988, the Tennessee volleyball team opened SEC play with a 2-0 mark after defeating Mississippi State (15-2, 10-15, 11-15, 15-10 and 19-17) and Mississippi (15-3, 15-3, 15-8). It also raised the Lady Vols' winning streak to four, matching its longest undefeated run since 1996. The Lady Vols now sit at 7-9 overall and 2-0 in the SEC.

Beavers Pitches Perfect Game

Junior pitcher Jackie Beavers' perfect game in the Sports Belle Fall Invitational helped the Lady Vols to a 5-1 finish in the tournament at Tyson Park. Beavers' perfection came against Roane State, 5-0, while Tennessee also collected wins over Cleveland State College, 8-1, 4-0, and 6-2, and Lipscomb University, 4-1. The sole loss came at the hands of Lipscomb, 2-1. The tournament was the only event the Tennessee softball team will participate in during the Fall season.

—Volunteers Magazine Staff

ATTENTION UT FANS ! ! !

Finally! A book is being written about the UT VOL FANS. You may have your whole house decorated with a UT theme, or you may have attended every game for 20 years. You may have come to the games by plane, boat or bike. You might have had "Rocky Top" as your wedding march music. Now you can share your story. To be considered for this book, your team spirit may either be elaborate or simple, serious or totally wacky. Either way, the search is on for the TRUE VOL FANS. If you have something to share, please include the following: Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code, Daytime Phone and Fax number if available. If you enclose a photo of whatever you consider your team support to be, please send nothing larger than a 5x7 and put your name and address on the back of the photo. Photos may not be returned. State ways in which you show support for the Vols. Please print or type. If you are selected, instructions will follow. Deadline is 12-31-97. Send to: UT Fans, Post Office Box 8288, Hermitage, TN 37076-8288.

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This Week In Big Orange Country

Vol Linksters Finish 12th

The University of Tennessee of golf team finished 37 strokes behind Mississippi State, to finish in 12th place, in the Gatorade/WIVK Tennessee Tournament of Champions held at Holston Hills Country Club in Knoxville on Sep. 29-30.

The 10th annual classic was held under great East Tennessee weather at the scenic course watched first round scores fall later in the first day. As the winds went, so did the scores. Tennessee shot a one-under 287 for the first round, but came back later in the day and shot a 298. Meanwhile, SEC competitors Mississippi State (281-289-282—852), Georgia (277-288-290—855) and South Carolina (286-279-291—856) were leading the way after two rounds.

On the second day, Mississippi State seized the day as they fired a final round of six-under par (282) to win their first Tennessee Tournament of Champions title. The Bulldogs placed three linksters in the top 10 to propel them to the that elusive first title. The Bulldogs past trips have included finishing: 4th (1989), 5th (1996), 8th (1988), 9th (twice 1990 and 1994), 10th (1993), 12th (1991), 13th (1995) and 14th place (1992).

Individually, the Vols saw senior Derrick Centers finish tied for 24th with rounds of 69-73-77—219, while fellow senior Kevin Law finished tied for 51st with scores of 73-75-77—225. The Vols played five players whose scores counted towards the team's effort, and two individuals. Expectations will be high next year for head coach Mike Malarkey's charges as five of the seven Tennessee players in the TTOC were true freshmen. Other Vols placing in the top 70 were Andy Brimer (tied- 37th 72-75-75—222), Jimmy White (tied- 43rd 73-75-76—224), Phanthep Somsamart (tied- 73rd 76-79-76—231). Individually, Kariem Baraka finished tied for 43rd with rounds of 76-72-76—224, and Ryo Fukami tallied 71-84-75—230 to finish in 69th position.

The tournament individual title was won by Florida State's George McNeill with improving scores of 72-69-66—207 for the medal honor. U.S. Amateur Champion Tim Clark finished tied for second with Chad Wellhausen (68-70-70—208) of Mississippi State after rounds of 67-70-71—208.

"With our group, experience is the key," said Malarkey. "We found that two of our freshmen that played at the Virginia Cavalier Classic last week were more comfortable and played significantly better. Those guys did light years better."

What coach Malarkey is hoping for is that the freshmen will use this experience to help the Vols in the Spring of 1998 as the Vols will be shooting for another NCAA appearance.

"It's a year-long schedule. You're trying to get an NCAA East Regional bid and be as competitive as you possibly can. Then you try to make the NCAA Finals field. That's the far end. It happens in May. This is September. If you ask the players, everybody would not be happy with how they played. The question is what did they learn. We learned a lot today," Malarkey finished.

Tennessee will take its show on the road where they will compete in the Country Club of Louisiana Intercollegiate in Baton Rouge, La., on Oct. 27-28. Using these past two tournaments should help the young squad prepare for a very competitive field of teams that they will face through the 1997-98 season.

—Donnell Field

Derrick Centers finished with a three-day score of 69-73-77—219 as the Vols hosted the Tennessee Tournament of Champions at Holston Hills Country Club. Photo by Donnell Field.

Golf Finishes Ninth Hosting Inaugural Tournament

The brainchild of volunteer assistant coach Ann Furrow turned out to be a booming success as the Lady Vol athletics department hosted its first-ever regular-season intercollegiate golf tournament, the Mercedes-Benz Women's Collegiate Championships, Sept. 26-28, at Knoxville's Gettysvue Polo, Golf and Country Club.

A first-class operation from the outset, Furrow's idea came to fruition with help from Women's Athletics Director Joan Cronan and the Vice-President of Mercedes-Benz of North America Robert Crolic.

From the facility to the participants, UT tried to maintain its tradition of excellence in the new endeavor.

Even against an extremely talented field, which included 15 of the NCAA's top 25 teams, as well as the Swedish Junior National Team and three other nationally-prominent collegiate programs, Tennessee's national title-contending contingent figured to challenge for the inaugural crown. The eighth-ranked Lady Vols showed flashes of the talent it capitalized upon to finish sixth at last year's NCAA Championships, but still struggled on the challenging hilly course, which also caused problems for three of the nation's most prestigious programs, top-ranked Arizona, defending national champion and second-ranked Arizona State, and 20th-ranked San Jose State.

No. 8 Tennessee improved in each round of the three-day event, to claim a 928 total and ninth-place overall finish only one shot behind 16th-ranked North Carolina. Entering the final day, the Lady Vols sat ninth, but even dropping five strokes off their total could not make a dent in the team race.

Seventh-ranked Duke claimed the team title, and finished as the only team to post a sub-900 score at 899. The Blue Devils biggest challenge came from sixth-ranked Louisiana State and 17th-ranked Georgia, who each tied for second with a 909, 10 shots behind the tournament champion. No. 3 Tulsa, No. 11 Furman, Arizona State and Arizona rounded out the top seven.

Senior All-SEC selection Erin Kurczewski paced the Lady Vols with a 232 on the par-72 course to finish in a tie for 22nd, 20 shots behind individual medalist Jenny Chuasiriporn of Duke. However, in a field which included a dozen All-Americans, Kurczewski out performed 1996 NCAA Individual titlest Marisa Baena of Arizona and the nation's top-ranked player, Grace Park of Arizona State, among other notable performers.

Senior Erin Kurczewski helped lead the Lady Vols to ninth-place finish in the Mercedes-Benz Championships. Photo by Donnell Field.

Senior Skyli Yamada reeled off back-to-back outstanding rounds on the first two days of the tournament, but a third-round 89 dropped her from contention. Freshman Anna Umemura was a pleasant surprise for the team, as the Honolulu, Hawaii, native shot 77-80-76 for a 233 total to tie for 25th. As an uncertain commodity, Umemura's play was crucial for the Lady Vols since the team only consists of five players.

Tying for 42nd was senior Rachel Thompson. Having seen little action since last April, Thompson shot the team's lowest final-day score with a 75, to end with a 237, after dropping four shots off her total each day on the course.

Rounding out the Lady Vol troops was junior Jessica Lindbergh, who tied for 47th with a 238.

After the conclusion of the event, Tennessee coach Lori Brock reflected on the tournament's success, "Women's collegiate golf now has a new venue to showcase its talent with the Mercedes-Benz Championships, while giving the city of Knoxville the ability to watch some of the premier talent in the collegiate game."

—Brad Laux

Our Purpose

The intention of the Lettermen's Club under Article II is: (a.) To establish a national organization to promote and preserve the friendships and loyalties enjoyed by former athletes of The University of Tennessee; (b.) To support The University of Tennessee, its Athletic Board, Athletic Department, and Office of Alumni Affairs in its continuing efforts toward improving The University's facilities and programs, in its pursuit of excellence in all sports, and in its goal of maintaining a position of national prominence and reputation for all "Volunteer" intercollegiate athletic teams. (c.) To foster and promote the highest principles and ethical standards of sportsmanship by participants, and to improve recognition thereof of students, alumni, and spectators at all sporting events at the University. (d.) To recognize outstanding achievement and service to the athletic programs of The University. (e.) To perform such other activities or things incidental to or connected with the advancement of the forgoing purposes; but not for pecuniary profit or financial gain of its members, directors, or officers, except as may be permitted by laws governing "Not for Profit" corporations.

Current Membership

On Oct. 2, membership for the Lettermen's Club now stands at 1182 members, 21 of which are Lifetime, three are Associate members. If you have not renewed your membership, you can do so by sending your dues to the T-Club or by contacting Judy Constantine at (423) 974-9054.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Lettermen's Club is set for Nov. 6, 1997, at the Varsity Inn at 12 p.m.

T-Club Room

The T-Club Room will be open three hours before kickoff of the South Carolina game Nov. 1. Make plans to stop by and see old friends and a chance to make some new ones. Beverages and snack foods will be available.

Fall Weekend Outing

The annual Fall Weekend outing is set for Nov. 28-29, which is the weekend of the Vols last home football game for 1997. On Friday, Nov. 28, members of the 1967 SEC Championship football team will have a dinner at the UT Conference Center on Henley Street. Basketball members from the 1967 SEC Championship team, and other lettermen, are encouraged to attend the home basketball contest between the Vols and Appalachian State, on Friday evening. Tickets are still available and can be purchased by calling the UT Ticket Office at (423) 656-1200. Finally, members of the 1967 Basketball, Football and Track and Field SEC Championship teams will be honored during the final home game of 1997 against Vanderbilt. There are a limited number of tickets available to lettermen by calling Judy Constantine.

Spring Outing

The annual Spring gathering for the T-Club members is scheduled for April 17-18, 1998. On Friday, April 17, the Lettermen's Club will hold its golf tournament at Green Meadow Country Club. The Orange & White Game will be on Saturday, April 18. More details will be available in later issues.

Mark your calendar for these special upcoming events.

—Donnell Field

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VASF NEWS AND NOTES

NCAA Q & A

This week continues the series on the actions and liabilities of athletic representatives of the University of Tennessee. We all want to see the Vols and Lady Vols win, but at Tennessee it is most important to win honestly—and that means following NCAA rules.

Last week a University of Tennessee Athletic Representative was defined. This week, here is a look at how the NCAA sees VASF supporters affecting the recruiting processes of the University. All UT supporters (anyone who gives money or gifts in kind in any way to the University of Tennessee) are considered athletic representatives by the NCAA.

QUESTION: Can an athletic representative contact a prospective student-athlete for recruiting?

ANSWER: No. The NCAA forbids any athletic representative from contacting a prospective student-athlete for recruiting purposes. Any communication (either in person or some other means) which exceeds a casual greeting is considered a contact. Only University of Tennessee Athletic Staff members are permitted to have contact with prospective student-athletes regarding recruiting.

New VASF Priority Dealine March 1st

The Volunteer Athletic Scholarship Fund has made an important change regarding donations and donor priority. Starting in 1998, the donor priority deadline will move from March 15 to March 1. All donations, including matching grant forms, must be received by March 1 in order to qualify for season ticket and parking benefits for the 1998 football and basketball seasons. The VASF appreciates everyone's support of the Volunteers and is implementing this change in an effort to expedite football ticket application and renewal mail-out. The VASF takes in approximately 75 percent of annual donations in the three-month period from January 1 to March 1. With more than 9,000 donors, getting all the gifts acknowledged and recorded in the donor database is a big task. This new deadline of March 1 will help the VASF improve service and gift recording. Football renewal forms and applications will be mailed around April 1, instead of April 14.

Fund Drive Worker Meeting

The returning VASF Fund Drive workers held their first meeting of the year on Saturday in the Lettermen's Room prior to the Vols' tussle with Georgia. Athletic Director Doug Dickey and head basketball coach Jerry Green welcomed all the workers and encouraged them to keep up the awesome job they did last year as the VASF recorded its eleventh straight year of record growth in 1997. Another major topic was the new point system which will begin in the next few weeks. Watch this page in upcoming issues of VOLUNTEERS Magazine/Smokey's Tale for an in-depth question and answer session about the new point system.

Alabama Football Game Reception

On Friday night, Oct. 17, at the Mountain Brook Inn in Birmingham, Ala., Tennessee fans and friends will pump up the Orange before the game against the Alabama Crimson Tide. The Tennessee National Alumni Association is sponsoring their annual away game reception for all Vols' friends and fans. The Mountain Brook Inn is located at 2800 Highway 280 South, and the reception is slated for 7:00-9:00 p.m. Call the Alumni Association at (423) 974-3011 for more details.

VASF Day

"Volunteer Athletic Scholarship Fund Day," a day designed to honor and thank all the supporters of the VASF, will take place on Saturday, Nov. 1, in Thompson-Boling Arena, prior to the Tennessee football game against South Carolina. There will be games, food, and an autograph session with selected athletes from each of Tennessee's sports. All VASF donors should receive two complimentary admission tickets in the mail in the next few weeks. Extras will be available. If you have not received yours by Oct. 29, call the VASF Office at (423) 974-1218.

Basketball Banquet

The 1997-98 "Wendy's Tip-Off Banquet" will be held Thursday, Oct. 30, in Thompson-Boling Arena. The meal will be catered by Calhoun's and both coach Summitt and Green will speak. Also, both 1997-98 basketball teams will be introduced. Robin Roberts, ESPN commentator, will be the featured speaker. Tickets are $25 per person or $200 for a table seating eight. Each table will also have either a basketball player or coaching staff member dining there as well. Seats are filling up fast. Contact the Women's Athletic Department at (423) 974-0001 to reserve your space.

Men's Basketball Tickets

1997-98 full season tickets are now available. Get in on the action early and get your seats reserved before the excitement spreads too far out of control. Tickets are only $172 per person for all 18 home games and include a strong collection of home games against some of the nation's toughest basketball teams. The ticket office has the necessary order forms. Call (423) 656-1200.

Men's Basketball Big Game Packs

1997-98 mini-season ticket packages are available through the mail. They are $40 each and contain tickets to four of Tennessee's best match-ups of the their home season. All the games are on Saturdays over a five-week span. The tickets reflect the same seats for all four home games against Kentucky, Vanderbilt, Arkansas, and South Carolina. Call the ticket office at (423) 656-1200 for a brochure.

— Steve Sams

The Last Word...
JACK REYNOLDS

The note at the bottom of a UT practice story in a recent edition of the Knoxville News-Sentinel said simply that former linebacker Vol Jack Reynolds had been at practice one afternoon during the open date week after the Florida game.

For those of us who have followed the Vols over the last 40 years or so, the mention of Jack Reynolds' name brought back wonderful memories of past gridiron glories on the Hill. It also sent the memory banks into overtime to recount Reynolds' career as a Vol and beyond. What a career it was.

Reynolds, who came to the Vols from Cincinnati, was a member of the recruiting class of 1965-66 and started every game save one during his career, the opener against UCLA in 1967. It was a Vol career which saw him earn All-SEC and All-America honors in 1969.

He also had a distinguished pro career with the Los Angeles Rams (1970-80) and the San Francisco 49ers (1981-84). He played in three Super Bowls, one with the Rams (1980) and two with the 49ers (1982 and 1984), winning two of the three. He showed up big, particularly in one critical time in the 1982 win over the Bengals when the 49ers shut the door on a critical Cincinnati possession in the shadow of the goal line.

It was back in the late 1960s that Reynolds was a force to be reckoned with on the gridiron, a bulldozer of a player in jersey No. 64. The Vols had two premier linebackers, Reynolds and Steve Kiner, and, if there were ever a better pair than those two, the floor is open for debate.

It was News-Sentinel Marvin West who said of Kiner and Reynolds in 1968: "Reynolds and his linebacker partner, Steve Kiner, figure to be first-teamers this fall unless Dick Butkus and Tommy Nobis show up at Vol drills."

It was in the 1967-69 time frame, when Doug Dickey patrolled the west sidelines for the Vols, that the good guys won two SEC titles in three years and all was right with the world.

Jack Reynolds wore No. 64 proudly at Tennessee and ended up with two Super Bowl rings during his pro career.

There was a 9-1 campaign in 1967 with a No. 2 ranking and trip to the Orange Bowl thrown in. It was in that Orange Bowl game that Reynolds met Oklahoma sophomore fullback Steve Owens, who would win the Heisman Trophy two years later, head-on on a fourth-and-one play late in the game that gave the Vols one final chance to win. It was, by any account, a big play. Big enough, in fact, to earn him a spot on Sports Illustrated's All-Bowl Team.

He continued over the course of the next two seasons to be a dominant force on the Vol defense.

Reynolds, who achieved acclaim as one of John Madden's favorite players and was pictured riding the team bus to the 1981 Super Bowl in his game uniform, was a player who gave his all when he was on the field.

"Reynolds is in a class by himself when it comes to dedication and hustle," Steve said way back in 1969. "He's the best football player I've ever been around.

"Every day in practice, Jack comes to play. He has just one forward gear, full-speed ahead. If he's on the football field, he goes all-out. If he stops, he rests. he never loafs. He never short-cuts.

"I think there are a lot of us who measure by Jack. If I can do something as well as Jack Reynolds, I figure I've done the job."

All that came from a young man who was a two-time All-America selection at Tennessee (1968-69). That's high praise, indeed.

Reynolds entered Vol lore with the nickname "Hacksaw," one earned when he sawed his 1953 Chevrolet in half while venting his frustrations after one of the infrequent losses during his Tennessee career.

All Jack Reynolds really wanted was a chance to control his own destiny. From the time of the 1970 pro draft, there were many of the football intelligensia who said he was too short and too slow to play pro football. He proved the doubters wrong many times over.

"That's the way I am," he said. "It's a challenge when somebody tells me I can't do something. It riles me up." He even wore a T-shirt with the phrase emblazoned on it.

That's true. Don't rile Jack Reynolds up. All you have to do is ask anybody who's been on the receiving end of a Reynolds hit.

You may find this hard to believe, but when I look at the different numbers that Vol players wear I tend to think of the great players who wore that number. No. 57 is always Steve Kiner and No. 64 is always Jack Reynolds. Those are no-brainers, no doubters. As I said before, the floor is open for debate.

When they call the roll of the great Tennessee linebackers, look for Jack Reynolds and Steve Kiner to be at the top of the list.

— Tom Mattingly

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